



*News from the*

## **Catholic Diocese of Palm Beach**

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# NEWS RELEASE

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### **DIOCESE OF PALM BEACH FORMS VOCATIONS COMMITTEE**

Most Rev. Gerald M. Barbarito and the Office of Vocations at the Diocese of Palm Beach announce a newly formed Vocations Committee comprised of Catholic lay men and women who will serve to support the important work and initiatives of the Diocese of Palm Beach Office of Vocations in the 5-county diocese. The purpose of the Vocations Committee is to assist in promoting a culture of vocations within the Catholic Church which cultivates, supports, and generates strong vocations to priesthood and religious life.

“The aim of the vocations committee is to assist the great work of our local Bishop and my role as Vocations Director in sharing the Good News about priesthood and religious life – each and every man and woman is called to a particular life of holiness – we are here to assist men and women discern the manner in which God is calling them to live their lives in service to Him,” said Fr. Yves Francois.

Under the leadership and direction of Fr. Yves Francois, Director of Vocations, the committee will meet on a regular basis to pray and collaborate for new ways in which the mission to promote Vocations can be achieved in its 53 parishes and missions and 21 schools and beyond. Guided by Fr. Yves Francois and in collaboration with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops committee on Vocations, the group will work toward bringing greater awareness to the mystery and blessedness of priesthood and religious life.

“We intend to not only communicate with individuals, but most especially with our Catholic families who play a tremendous role in the formation of priests and religious because the family is the ‘domestic church.’ Strengthening our families to encourage their sons and daughters, sisters and brothers to a life of holiness – to a life of priesthood or religious life is where we will target a large portion of our focus,” said Fr. Yves Francois. “The mission to attract more vocations for the Church is something every Catholic should be concerned with, I am grateful to have a committee which will support me with this great undertaking in our Diocese to bring vocations awareness to all homes, parishes, and schools,” he added.

The Vocations Committee is comprised of individuals from various parishes and diocesan ministries of all ages and various ethnicities. Fr. Yves Francois was appointed in October 6, 2006 by Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito to serve as Vocations Director. The mission of the Office of Vocations is to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life and to assist men and women who are interested in discerning God's call to serve as a diocesan priest or religious.

Updates on the work of the Vocations Committee and Office of Vocations will be available at [www.diocesepb.org](http://www.diocesepb.org)

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